

REMARKS

STATUS OF CLAIMS

Claims 71, 74, and 77 have been cancelled above. Note that Claims 1-57, 60-62, and 65-67 were previously cancelled.

Claims 58, 63, and 68 have been amended.

No claims have been added or withdrawn.

Claims 58, 59, 63, 64, 68-70, 72, 73, 75, 76, and 78 are currently pending in the application.

SUMMARY OF THE REJECTIONS/OBJECTIONS

Claims 58, 59, 63, 64, 68-70, 72, 73, 75, 76, and 78 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as allegedly anticipated by U.S. Patent Number 6,553,391 issued to Goldring et al. ("*Goldring*"). Claims 71, 74, and 77 have been objected to as being depending upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. The rejections and objections are respectfully traversed.

RESPONSE TO REJECTIONS BASED ON THE PRIOR ART

A. INDEPENDENT CLAIMS 58, 63, AND 68

Independent Claims 58, 63, and 68 have been amended to include all of the features of dependent Claims 71, 74, and 77, respectively, and then Claims 71, 74, and 77 have been cancelled above. Claims 71, 74, and 77 are indicated in the Final Office Action to be directed to allowable subject matter and would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. Therefore, the Applicant respectfully submits that Claims 58, 63, and 68, which now include all of the features of Claims 71, 74, and 77 respectively, are now allowable over the art of record and are in condition for allowance for the same reasons as why the Final Office Action states that Claims 71, 74, and 77 are directed to allowable subject matter.

B. CLAIMS 59, 64, 69, 70, 72, 73, 75, 76, AND 78

Claims 59, 70, and 72 are dependent upon Claim 58, Claims 64, 73, and 75 are dependent upon Claim 63, and Claims 69, 76, and 78 are dependent upon Claim 68, and thus Claims 59, 64, 69, 70, 72, 73, 75, 76, and 78 include each and every feature of the corresponding independent claims. Each of Claims 59, 64, 69, 70, 72, 73, 75, 76, and 78 is

therefore allowable for the reasons given above for Claims 58, 63, and 68. Therefore, the Applicant respectfully submits that Claims 59, 64, 69, 70, 72, 73, 75, 76, and 78 are allowable and in condition for allowance for the same reasons given above with respect to Claims 58, 63, and 68.

CONCLUSION

The Applicant believes that all issues raised in the Final Office Action have been addressed and that allowance of the pending claims is appropriate. Entry of the amendments and further examination on the merits are respectfully requested.

The Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned by telephone if it is believed that such contact would further the examination of the present application.

For the reasons set forth above, it is respectfully submitted that all of the pending claims are now in condition for allowance. Therefore, the issuance of a formal Notice of Allowance is believed next in order, and that action is most earnestly solicited.

To the extent necessary to make this reply timely filed, the Applicant petitions for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136.

If any applicable fee is missing or insufficient, throughout the pendency of this application, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to any applicable fees and to credit any overpayments to our Deposit Account No. 50-1302.

Respectfully submitted,

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Hon. Commissioner for Patents, Mail Stop AF, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

on 10/26/06

by


Tracy Reynolds